



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Economic Development and Business  
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By  
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### SB 1086 SD2 – RELATING TO THE MOTION PICTURE, DIGITAL MEDIA, AND FILM PRODUCTION INCOME TAX CREDIT

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 1086 SD2. This bill amends the Motion Picture, Digital Media, and Film Production Income Tax Credit by, among other things, requiring that to qualify for the tax credit a production must provide evidence of recognition, ability to understand, and efforts to respect and comply with cultural and environmental sensitivities in sensitive locations; must agree that if the production claims a credit of more than \$8,000,000, the production will provide an advanced screening of the finished product in the county of the island in which the majority of the production took place; and clarifies that qualified expenditures are required to be expended within this State.

The University supports this proposal with some suggested revisions. The tax credit as currently provided in HRS 235-17 requires that a production company provide evidence of financial or educational or workforce development efforts. UH proposes that there should be a nexus between the production company and the University of Hawai'i. In order to qualify for this tax credit under section 235-17(d), HRS, the University suggests including language from SB 1191, Section 2, which would require the production to contribute to workforce development efforts of the University of Hawai'i through its creative media programs. This would provide potential funding to support students at the University of Hawai'i in creative media programs and projects and will have a positive impact in ensuring support for the film production industry while helping to develop a strong workforce for the growing industry in the State.

Thank you for your consideration of these suggested amendments.